

# Fast Facts

## From Dr. Katz



"To ensure access to high-quality, patient-centered, cost-effective health care to Los Angeles County residents through direct services at DHS facilities and through collaboration with community and university partners."

April 24, 2012



### A Message from the Director

A highlight for me last month was attending the Rancho Los Amigos "Amistad" gala you can read about below. The work of Rancho makes one believe in miracles. Besides, who doesn't love a story where a boy (using a wheel chair) meets a girl (on titanium legs with high heels) and they fall in love and marry? As is true of all great achievements, whether regaining skills through physical therapy, learning to do things in a different way, or maintaining a successful marriage, it takes work, hard work. Achievements don't just happen.

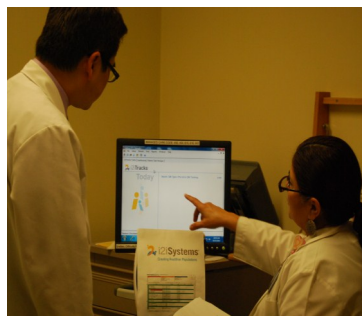
On the topic of achievement, you will also read in this issue that we have adopted a population health registry system to chart the progress of our patients with chronic diseases. This electronic tool gives the clinical team prompts when the patient needs additional treatment or evaluation. A population health registry is just one of many necessary elements for our DHS transformation, and I am very pleased to see it running.

I am also happy to welcome Dr. Erin Saleeby to DHS as Director of our Women's Health Programs and Innovation. She represents a new model for DHS -- someone who is primarily a clinician located at one of our clinical sites (Harbor-UCLA in her case), but who also serves as our DHS expert for a particular area. We will be looking to identify other great clinicians who want to work to improve care in their area of specialization throughout DHS.

On a personal note, I love daylight savings time and the turn of the seasons. It makes me feel even more energetic, and I am enjoying riding home in the light through beautiful Los Angeles. I hope all of you are finding time to get outdoors too.

### Patient-Centered Medical Home i2i Systems' Electronic Registry

Contributed by Lori Weiselberg



The Department of Health Services has contracted with i2i Systems to purchase user licenses for their population health management registry: **i2i Tracks**. The application is focused on creating healthier populations by enabling us to run reports on our care delivery and clinical outcomes across the system, as well as automating data to action plans for the individual patient. This registry will be a central tool for Patient-Centered

Medical Home teams to improve patient care.

Registry data is tracked for the population of patients assigned to the PCMH team. Data can be separated by disease or population. For example, reports of patients with markers of poor disease control can be produced. This will help staff focus specific effort on high risk patients. Data is translated to practical actions like automatically generating and sending reminder letters to outreach to patients needing preventive health screenings.

For an individual patient, the registry produces a "patient visit summary." This summary brings together important health information for the patient's visit. For example, it may include a graph that shows changes in blood pressure over time, the patient's weight loss goal, or preventive screenings that are due such as a mammogram. The patient visit summary brings to the attention of the health care team any clinical alerts, making the most of the patient visit.

All of this will help the team support the health of their assigned patient population. Registry trainers have been recruited from throughout DHS. They are being prepared to initiate training with PCMH teams and hospital based primary care clinics in April and May 2012. Registry use will support system-wide improvements in health care quality and promote a healthier patient population. A recorded demo can be viewed on the DHS [YouTube channel](#).

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### Miracles and 'Big Easy' Mix at Amistad

Contributed by Michael Wilson



Dr. Mitch Katz, County CEO William Fujioka, Supervisor Don Knabe and Rancho patient artist Charlie Uribe

Arts Director, a mentor for patients and manager of the hospital's Patient Resource Center.

Rancho CEO Jorge Orozco said he was inspired by the night's honorees and the support of donors including the Annenberg Foundation (Presenting Sponsor) and many others who keep the facility's programs operating and the hospital's promise alive. "Jay suffered a life-changing spinal cord injury six years ago, and after his rehabilitation at Rancho, he has been an inspiration for fellow patients," he said. The emotional highlight of the evening came when Jay's wife Katy Sullivan, who was born without legs, strode onto the dance floor on her titanium legs and sang "For Good" from the play "Wicked" as a tribute to her husband. The audience responded with a two-minute standing ovation. The Amistad event supports many vital Rancho programs, such as Wheelchair Sports, Art of Rancho, Therapeutic Horseback Riding, and Advanced Technology Robotics programs. Information on Amistad and other Rancho Foundation programs can be found at [www.rancho.org](http://www.rancho.org).

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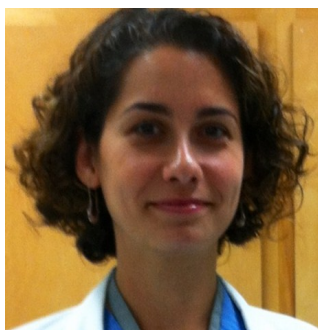
## Dr. Saleeby joins DHS as Director of Women's Health Programs and Innovation

Contributed by Lisa Finkelstein

Dr. Erin Saleeby, a practicing obstetrician/gynecologist, has joined the DHS leadership team as Director of Women's Health Programs and Innovation. In her new role, Dr. Saleeby will work across our health system with our hospital sites, our ambulatory care network and our community partner clinics to help enhance our services for women. In addition to her work within our health system, Dr. Saleeby also has a strong commitment to building our community relationships, collaborating to foster a neighborhood approach to care.

Her work at the intersection of health system improvement and community engagement has been diverse. In rural Honduras she co-founded a reproductive health program, engaging local partners including the Secretary of Health and academic partners at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In San Francisco, she engaged the community as a board member for Volunteers in Medicine, planning and developing a new free clinic. Here in Los Angeles, she worked with a community-based organization to develop a sexual health education program with plans to incorporate it into an enhanced service delivery model, including pre-release contraception, for girls in the Juvenile Court Health System.

Dr. Saleeby's history of leadership in clinical medicine, social justice, and educational innovation clearly demonstrates that she is committed to health promotion and the advancement of health care for women. Dr. Saleeby earned both her M.D. and her M.P.H. at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She completed her residency training in OBGYN at the University of California, San Francisco. She then went on to pursue fellowship training in health services research at UCLA as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar. Committed to providing efficient, high-quality medical care in an interdisciplinary environment, Dr. Saleeby understands the unique needs of female patients and aspires to enhance the department's services for women at all stages in the life course.



## High Desert Health System Gives Back

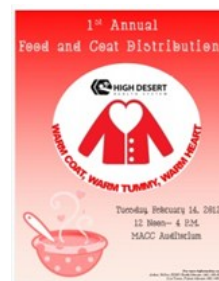
Contributed by Lisa Turner

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." – Margaret Mead.

In the month of December, the High Desert Health System (HDHS) Customer Service Committee (CSC); Lisa Turner, Patient Advocate, and Andrea McIver, Health Educator, teamed up and conducted a system-wide food and coat drive, prompting the generosity of HDHS employees to donate over 90 coats along with approximately 250 pounds of non-perishable foods. On December 14, 2011, the HDHS Patient Support Group celebrated the holiday season together with their annual Christmas party. Over 70 patients and families, who participated in this party, received a warm donated coat of their choice, food, and healthy living educational materials.

Wanting to give back even more, HDHS staff launched the first annual Food and Coat Distribution. Many of the patients who received donations over the holidays were so excited to be blessed with coats that they felt compelled to help in the distribution of goods on February 14. So with the help of five HWLA patients and the slogan "*Warm Coat, Warm Tummy, Warm Heart*," the HDHS Auditorium was decorated in a Valentine's Day theme and over 40 coats along with approximately 200 pounds of non-perishable foods, and health living educational information were distributed to needy patients and families. Goods that were not distributed were later donated to local charities.

Overall the event was a great success and many patients expressed their appreciation for HDHS caring enough to give.



## DHS Hospitals Recognized as "Baby-Friendly"

Contributed by Michael Wilson



Reading and classical music may increase a newborn's artistic side, but breastfeeding can reduce their chances for obesity and chronic illness. Beethoven and Stravinsky will have to compete with intimate time between baby and mom for a newborn's attention. Babies are getting that healthy start at LAC+USC, Harbor-UCLA and Olive View-UCLA Medical Centers, which have all been designated as "Baby Friendly" Hospitals. The designation means they meet criteria established by the U.S. accrediting agency sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

"Baby-Friendly ensures that hospitals provide the gold standard of maternity care to their patients," said Delvecchio Finley, chief executive officer at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. "Our entire team, including physicians, nurses and lactation specialists, has worked together to create a system of support for our new families." The key, experts say, is not just encouraging breastfeeding, but getting mothers to start doing it immediately while they are in the hospital. Achieving that goal takes education and changes in approaches to maternal care.

Hospital maternity wards that meet the "Baby Friendly" designation help mothers initiate breastfeeding within one hour of birth, show them how to breastfeed and maintain lactation even if they should be separated from their infants, give newborn infants only breast milk unless medically indicated, practice rooming-in by allowing mothers and infants to remain together 24 hours a day, and encourage unrestricted breastfeeding on cue. "County-run hospitals serve low-income families who often have higher rates of high risk pregnancies," said Karen Peters of the Breastfeeding Task Force of Greater Los Angeles. "Reaching these mothers is especially important."

DHS hospitals had help earning the designation from the Breastfeeding Task Force of Greater Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, which worked with each hospital to convene staff from administration, maternity care, materials management, social work, emergency, library, prenatal and pediatric clinics through grant funding.